

Teaching Outline - SET 2011- Handout 1  
Mastering Interesting Rehearsals  
Presented by: Peggy McBride  
Friday August 5th 9:00am

Targeted Learners: Directors and Music Team Members

Goal/Objective: To give example and rationale for planning interesting, productive and satisfying chorus rehearsals

## **I. Introduction: Opening remarks about directing**

- A. Highly Conditioned Oyster
- B. Nothing new here

## **II. Purpose and Plan**

- A. Purpose: goals for the year, month or week
- B. Plan: how to reach those goals
- C. Communicate it to your singers

## **III. Every Rehearsal Needs**

- A. Aha - I learned
- B. HaHa - I laughed
- C. Ahaaa - I was moved

## **IV. Learning Modalities**

- A. Visual
- B. Auditory
- C. Kinesthetic

## **V. The Hook and the Pearl**

- A. Anticipatory Set, Checking for understanding, Think Pair Share
- B. Pearl: an example of your expectation / encourages progress

## **VI. Structured Like a Song**

## **VII. Fun rehearsal techniques**

## **VII. Small group strategies - time to build a fun rehearsal**

## **IX. Wrap up - what did you learn?**

# A Variety of Fun Rehearsal Techniques

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- Have singers record themselves singing a song, then go off and self-evaluate and turn in a self-critique including what they liked about their voice
- Switch sides for singing
- Pull rows off for character feedback. One row at a time
- Break into Fix-It sectional spots working a key change or interval sectional.
- Pair up and have ones watch while two perform. Then switch
- Teach a tag by ear and have everyone tag in a quartet or double quartet
- Pick four people to sit out and be judges
- Have each person do her own warm-up at the same time on the risers
- Have two circles - one inside the other (I put basses on inside)- have them sing an uptempo song touching their own lap and the persons lap next to them.
- Use international competition video tapes
- Have discussions about what they see and hear. Why is it such a good performance? What can they use from what they saw in their own performance
- Practice Acting Skills
- Play Theater games
- Backwards night
- Pick a number: choose a number. The singer who picks the right number gets to choose a song to sing.
- Sing somewhere else on the risers
- Pitch 'n tag: work only the beginning and end of your repertoire songs. Alphabetically, random
- Divide your group into sections by using facts about the individual member. One you have the groups, rehearse whatever needs work. example: eye color, siblings, make or model or car
- Learn about judging categories
- Choose one or two skills to focus on non contest songs
- Have a chorus sing-off. Break into groups, learn a new song or tag, and then presnet the song to the chorus.
- Audi ate and sing
- Peel off: have four rows(one for each part)and director stands in front. Chorus sings a song and when directed peels off to the end of the line.
- Quartet Square
- More?

SET 2011

Peggy McBride

Mastering interesting rehearsals - group strategies

Friday August 5th 9:00 am

handout 3

Take 3 rehearsal suggestions and incorporate them into this outline. I encourage you to add your own ideas too!

Rehearsal Outline - 3 musical goals/objectives for the evening

7:00-7:20

7:20-7:40

7:40-8:10

8:10-8:20

8:20-8:40

8:40-8:50

8:50-9:10

9:10-9:20

9:20-9:30 announcements/celebrations